

BEFORE THE STATE OF WASHINGTON
ENERGY FACILITY SITE EVALUATION COUNCIL

In the Matter of
Certificate holder

ENERGY NORTHWEST

COLUMBIA GENERATING STATION
DRY CASK STORAGE FACILITY

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO
RECEIVE COMMENTS FROM
MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC
(September 6, 2000)

Notice of Hearing to Receive Comments from Members of the Public – September 6, 2000-

The Washington State Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC or the Council) invites you to participate in its consideration of a request from Energy Northwest to amend the Columbia Generating Station (formerly WNP-2) Site Certification Agreement to allow for the construction of a nuclear spent fuel Dry Cask Storage Facility. EFSEC, the state agency responsible for regulating public health and safety at the Columbia Generating Station site, is conducting a public hearing on September 6, 2000, to provide an opportunity for citizens, stakeholders, and interested persons or organizations to comment on the proposed Dry Cask Storage Facility. The Council will also consider the plant's name change from WNP-2 to Columbia Generating Station as part of this amendment review process. The hearing is scheduled to begin at 7:00 p.m., at the Trade Recreation Agricultural Center (TRAC), meeting room 2, 6600 Burden Boulevard, Pasco, Washington.

Energy Northwest is proposing to construct a dry cask storage facility at its electric power plant, Columbia Generating Station, located in Benton County approximately 12 miles north of Richland, Washington, on the Hanford site. The proposed activity includes the construction of a fenced cask storage yard and an equipment storage building. The project also includes upgrades to plant roadways for heavy loads and the installation of attendant security and utility systems. The proposed construction activity is entirely located within the area previously disturbed by plant construction.

After reviewing the proposed amendment to construct the storage facility and an environmental checklist submitted with the application, the Council's responsible official for the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) issued a Mitigated Determination of Non-Significance (DNS). The mitigating conditions cited in that determination were: Emergency plans should be amended to recognize the potential for accidental releases from the facility and the dry cask site should be incorporated into the plant's Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program (REMP). The Council also recognizes that the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has jurisdiction over the dry cask storage system and will be coordinating its review with that agency.

The September 6, 2000 public hearing provides an opportunity for the Council to hear comments on the proposed Dry Cask Storage Facility and possible environmental or safety impacts and name change. We invite all interested persons to attend and participate in this hearing. We also

welcome any written comments that you would care to submit prior to or at the hearing. The Council has indicated that it may be prepared to act on this amendment request at its regular September 11, 2000 meeting.

The amendment request and SEPA determination and checklist are available from the Council at the address listed below, or by calling 360/956-2152. These documents are also available on the EFSEC web site at <http://www.efsec.wa.gov/enw/drycask.htm>.

If you require special assistance, a translator or auxiliary aids to participate in the meeting, please contact Mariah Laamb at 360/956-2121. For TTD, call 360/586-4224.

WASHINGTON ENERGY FACILITY SITE EVALUATION COUNCIL
Dated in Olympia, Washington, this 16th day of August, 2000.

_____/s/_____
By: Allen J. Fiksdal, EFSEC Manager
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